United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

Manti-La Sal National Forest Price, Utah 84501

Reply to: 2820

Date: March 5, 1992

Allen Childs Genwal Coal Company Box 1201 Huntington, Utah 84528

Dear Allen:

Transmitted herewith is a copy of a scoping document for your review. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at the above address or by calling (801) 637-2817. Comments will be accepted until close of business March 12, 1992.

Sincerely,

CHARLES J. JANKIEWICZ

District Ranger

enclosure

IN GENEVALUE

DIVISION OF OIL GAS & MINING

MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST PROJECT SCOPING DOCUMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



DIVIGION OF OIL GAS & MIMING

DATE: 02/28/92 DISTRICT NAME: PRICE DISTRICT FILE CODE: 2820

1. PROJECT NAME: Surface Buffer Zone for Subsidence Around State Coal Leases in the Crandall Canyon Mine Permit Area

2. RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Charlie Jankiewicz, Price District Ranger

PROPOSAL: 3. Genwal Coal Company has submitted a revision to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM) to modify their Crandall Canyon Mining Permit. The revision, among other things, mostly involves Genwal's Utah coal leases (ML-21568 and ML-21569). For the purpose of this NEPA document, two revision items are pertinent: 1) coal extraction to within 100 feet of adjacent forest lands, and 2) a 20 degree angle of draw for subsidence that could affect unleased and unpermitted adjacent forest lands as much as one quarter of a mile away from the state lease boundaries. documentation received from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) dated 12/11/91, it was pointed out that if subsidence did occur on forest lands it would be minimal. Since surface disturbance caused by subsidence could occur, DOGM had Genwal include a quarter-mile buffer zone around the state leases in their proposed revision. This buffer zone is legally defined as follows:

T 15 S, R 6 E Sec. 25, S1/2 S1/2

Sec. 26, SE1/4 SE1/4

Sec. 34, lot 1

Sec. 35, lots 1-4, E1/2 NE1/4, NE1/4 SE1/4

T 15 S, R 7 E Sec. 30, lots 10 and 11

Sec. 31, lots 2-5, 8 and 9

T 16 S, R 6 E, Sec. 1, lots 2-7 and 12,

Sec. 3, lot 1, SE1/4 NE1/4, E1/2 SE1/4

Sec. 10, NE1/4 NE1/4

Sec. 11, lots 1-4, N1/2 NE1/4

Sec. 12, NW1/4 NW1/4

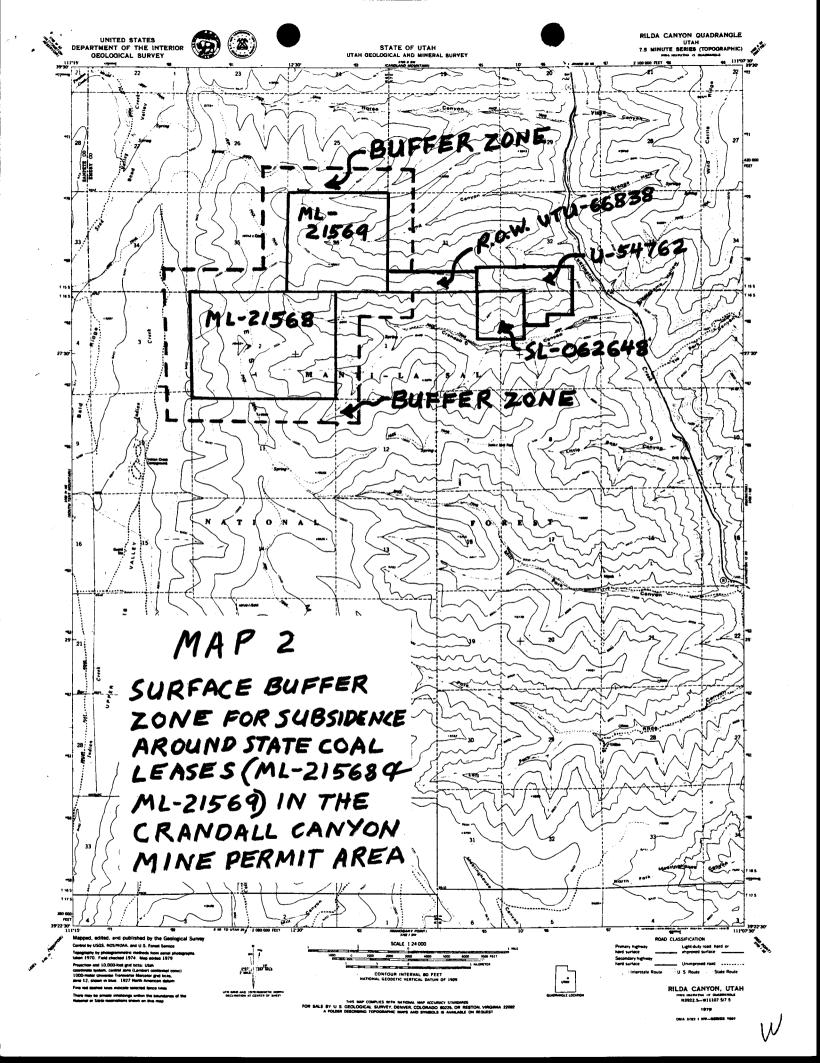
SLM, Emery County, Utah. See attached maps. A copy of the proposed revision which fully describes the activity is available for review at the Price Ranger District Office and the Manti-La Sal Forest Supervisor's Office, both located in Price, Utah.

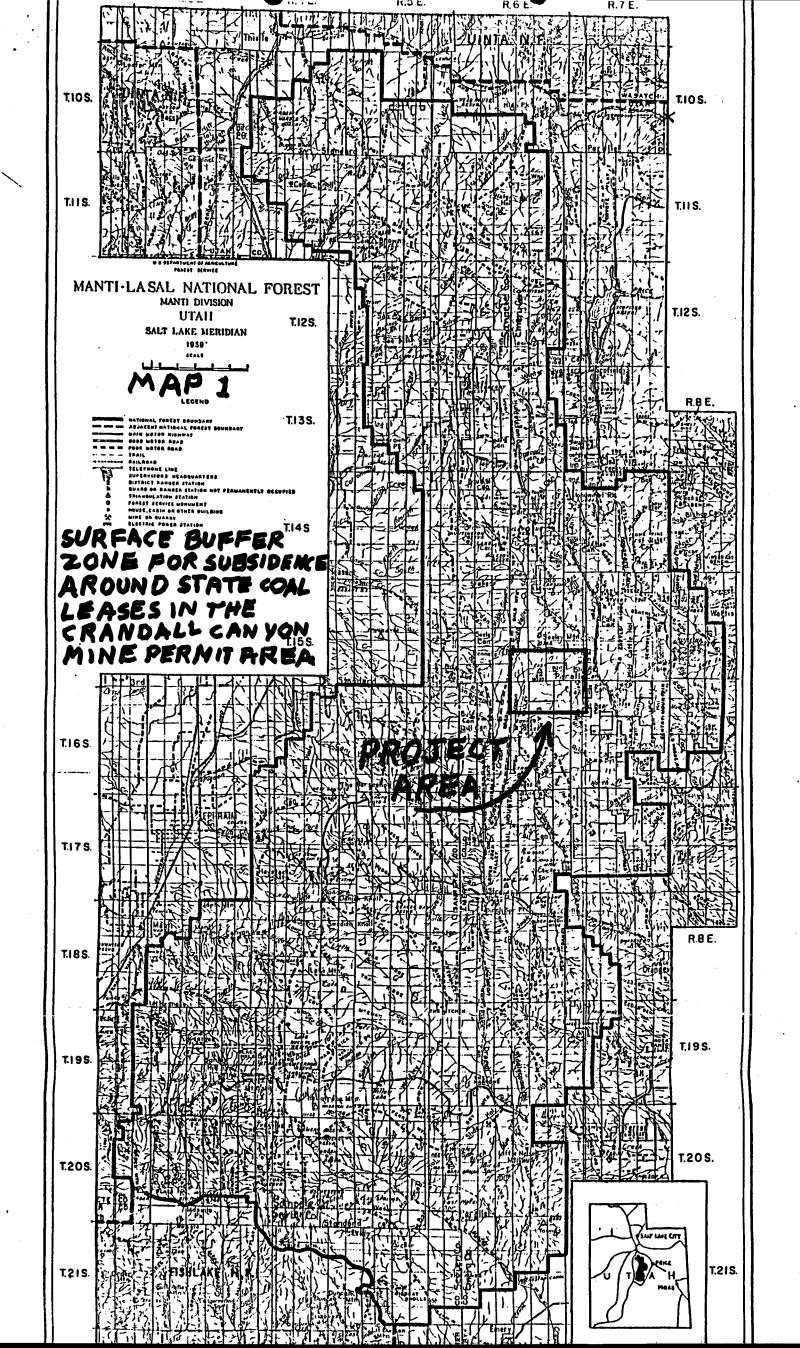
4. TIERING OPPORTUNITIES: Decision Memo, Genwal Coal Company Underground Access Right of Way (UTU-66838), 6/6/90; Environmental Assessment (EA), Emergency Coal Lease Application, U-54762, Genwal Coal Company, 12/24/85; EA for the Readjustment of Federal Coal Lease SL-062648, 1/28/83; EA, Modification of Federal Coal Lease SL-062648, 3/9/83; DN/FONSI for the Readjustment of Federal Coal Lease SL-062648, 11/7/90, and the Manti-La Sal National Forest Resource Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement, 11/6/86.

- 5. OTHER AGENCIES OR PUBLICS INVOLVED: DOGM and BLM
- EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT: No new effects on the environment would occur above and beyond those described in the aforementioned tiering documents.
- 7. ISSUES: No new issues have been identified above and beyond those addressed in the documents referenced under Tiering Opportunities.
- 8. SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVES: No Action - Waive the right to recommend 1. approval of the proposed revision with Forest Service Special Stipulations. 2. Proposed Action - Recommend approval of the proposed revision with application of appropriate Forest Service Special Stipulations from Appendix B of the Forest Plan.
- 9. ANALYSIS AND DECISION CRITERIA: Management decisions and guidelines as defined in the Forest Plan and FEIS and the above mentioned documents referenced under Tiering Opportunities.

10-1900-2 (Rév. (3/84)

10.	ANAL	YSIS	SKILLS:			
		SPEC	IALTY	SPECIALIST		ROLE (team leader, team member
						consultant, other)
	District Ranger Geologist Botanist Wildlife Biologist		Charlie Jankiewicz Walter Nowak Bob Thompson		Team Member Team Leader Consultant	
			Rod Player		Consultant	
11.	SCHE	DULE:				
		a.	Functional		f.	Review Draft
			Status Report:	_/_/	-:	Meeting://
		b.	Initial		g.	EA Draft://
			Meeting:	02/20/92		
		c.	Field		h.	DFR Decision
			Review:	/ /		Notice: 03//92
						
		d.	ID Team		i.	S. O. Decision
			Meeting:	02/20/92		Notice://_
		e.	ID Team		j.	Project
			Review Draft:	_/_/	٠, ر	Implementation: 03//92
10						
12.	2. RANGER DECISION: Requires further assessment: Requires no further assessment:					
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	Categorical Exclusion:					





SPECIAL STIPULATIONS

Federal Regulations 43 CFR 3400 pertaining to Coal Management make provisions for the Surface Management Agency, the surface of which is under the jurisdiction of any Federal agency other than the Department of Interior, to consent to leasing and to prescribe conditions to insure the use and protection of the lands. All or part of this lease contain lands the surface of which are managed by the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service - Manti-LaSal National Forest.

The following stipulations pertain to the Lessee responsibility for mining operations on the lease area and on adjacent areas as may be specifically designated on National Forest System lands.

Forest Service Stipulation #1.

Before undertaking activities that may disturb the surface of previously undisturbed leased lands, the Lessee may be required to conduct a cultural resource inventory and a paleontological appraisal of the areas to be disturbed. These studies shall be conducted by qualified professional cultural resource specialists or qualified paleontologists, as appropriate, and a report prepared itemizing the findings. A plan will then be submitted making recommendations for the protection of, or measures to be taken to mitigate impacts for identified cultural or paleontological resources.

If cultural resources or paleontological remains (fossils) of significant scientific interest are discovered during operations under this lease, the Lessee prior to disturbance shall immediately bring them to the attention of the appropriate authority. Paleontological remains of significant scientific interest do not include leaves, ferns or dinosaur tracks commonly encountered during underground mining operations.

The cost of conducting the inventory, preparing reports, and carrying out mitigating measures shall be borne by the Lessee.

Forest Service Stipulation #2.

If there is reason to believe that threatened or endangered (T&E) species of plants or animals, or migratory bird species of high Federal interest occur in the area, the Lessee shall be required to conduct an intensive field inventory of the area to be disturbed and/or impacted. The inventory shall be conducted by a qualified specialist and a report of findings will be prepared. A plan will be prepared making recommendations for the protection of these species or action necessary to mitigate the disturbance.

The cost of conducting the inventory, preparing reports and carrying out mitigating measures shall be borne by the Lessee.

Forest Service Stipulation #3.

The Lessee shall be required to perform a study to secure adequate baseline data to quantify the existing surface resources on and adjacent to the lease area. Existing data may be used if such data is adequate for the intended purposes. The study shall be adequate to locate, quantify, and demonstrate the interrelationship of the geology, topography, surface hydrology, vegetation and wildlife. Baseline data will be established so that future programs of observation can be incorporated at regular intervals for comparison.

Forest Service Stipulation #4.

Powerlines used in conjunction with the mining of coal from this lease shall be constructed so as to provide adequate protection for raptors and other large birds. When feasible, powerlines will be located at least 100 yards from public roads.

Forest Service Stipulation #5.

The limited area available for mine facilities at the coal outcrop, steep topography, adverse winter weather, and physical limitations on the size and design of the access road, are factors which will determine the ultimate size of the surface area utilized for the mine. A site-specific environmental analysis will be prepared for each new mine site development and for major improvements to existing developments to examine alternatives and mitigate conflicts.

Forest Service Stipulation #6.

Consideration will be given to site selection to reduce adverse visual impacts. Where alternative sites are available, and each alternative is technically feasible, the alternative involving the least damage to the scenery and other resources shall be selected. Permanent structures and facilities will be designed, and screening techniques employed to reduce visual impacts and, where possible, achieve a final landscape compatible with the natural surroundings. The creation of unusual, objectionable, or unnatural landforms and vegetative landscape features will be avoided.

Forest Service Stipulation #7.

The Lessee shall be required to establish a monitoring system to locate, measure and quantify the progressive and final effects of underground mining activities on the topographic surface, underground and surface hydrology and vegetation. The monitoring system shall utilize techniques which will provide

a continuing record of change over time and an analytical method for location and measurement of a number of points over the lease area. The monitoring shall incorporate and be an extension of the baseline data. Forest Service Stipulation #8.

The Lessee shall provide for the suppression and control of fugitive dust on haul roads and at coal handling and storage facilities. On Forest Development Roads (FDR), Lessees may perform their share of road maintenance by a commensurate share agreement if a significant degree of traffic is generated that is not related to their activities.

Forest Service Stipulation #9.

Except at specifically approved locations, underground mining operations shall be conducted in such a manner so as to prevent surface subsidence that would: (1) cause the creation of hazardous conditions such as potential escarpment failure and landslides, (2) cause damage to existing surface structures, and (3) damage or alter the flow of perennial streams. The Lessee shall provide specific measures for the protection of escarpments, and determine corrective measures to assure that hazardous conditions are not created.

Forest Service Stipulation #10.

In order to avoid surface disturbance on steep canyon slopes and to preclude the need for surface access, all surface breakouts for ventilation tunnels shall be constructed from inside the mine, except at specific approved locations.

Forest Service Stipulation #11.

If removal of timber is required for clearing of construction sites, etc., such timber shall be removed in accordance with the regulations of the surface management agency.

Forest Service Stipulation #12.

The coal contained within, and authorized for mining under this lease shall be extracted only by underground mining methods.

Forest Service Stipulation #13.

Existing Forest Service owned or permitted surface improvements will need to be protected, restored, or replaced to provide for the continuance of current land uses.

Forest Service Stipulation #14.

In order to protect big game wintering areas, elk calving and deer fawning areas, sagegrouse strutting areas, and other critical wildlife habitat and/or activities, specific surface uses outside the mine development area may be curtailed during specified periods of the year.

Forest Service Stipulation #15.

Support facilities, structures, equipment, and similar developments will be removed from the lease area within two years after the final termination of use of such facilities. Disturbed areas and those areas previously occupied by such facilities will be stabilized and rehabilitated, drainages reestablished, and the areas returned to a premining land use.

Forest Service Stipulation #16.

The Lessee, at the conclusion of the mining operation, or at other times as surface disturbance related to mining may occur, will replace all damaged, disturbed or displaced corner monuments (section corners, 1/4 corners, etc.) their accessories and appendages (witness trees, bearing trees, etc.) or restore them to their original condition and location, or at other locations that meet the requirements of the rectangular surveying system. This work shall be conducted at the expense of the Lessee, by a professional land surveyor registered in the State of Utah, and to the standards and guidelines found in the Manual of Surveying Instructions, United States Department of the Interior.

Forest Service Stipulation #17.

The Lessees, at their expense, will be responsible to replace any surface water identified for protection, that may be lost or adversely affected by mining operations, with water from an alternate source in sufficient quantity and quality to maintain existing riparian habitat, fishery habitat, livestock and wildlife use, or other land uses.

STIPULATION FOR LANDS OF THE NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM UNDER JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The licensee/permittee/lessee must comply with all the rules and regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture set forth at Title 36, Chapter II, of the Code of Federal Regulations governing the use and management of the National Forest System (NFS) when not inconsistent with the rights granted by the Secretary of the interior in the license/prospecting permit/lease. The Secretary of Agriculture's rules and regulations must be complied with for (1) all use and occupancy of the NFS prior to approval of a permit/operation plan by the Secretary of Interior, (2) uses of all existing improvements, such as Forest development roads, within and outside the area licensed, permitted or leased by the Secretary of Interior, and (3) use and occupancy of the NFS not authorized by a permit/operating plan approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

All matters related to this stipulation are to be addressed

to Forest Supervisor
Manti-LaSal National Forest
599 West Price River Drive
Price,Utah 84501

Telephone No.: 801-637-2817

who is the authorized representative of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Signature of Licensee/Permittee/Lessee